

**National Register of Historic Places Nomination Summaries  
For review at July 20, 2017 Board of State History Meeting**

**Myton Presbyterian Church, Myton, Duchesne County:**

"The Myton Presbyterian Church meets National Register Criterion A at the local level, because it is historically significant in the area of Religion as the first Presbyterian Church built in the town and one of the few early examples of the "community church" phase of Protestant church activity both in the Uintah Basin region and on former Native American reservation land. In the area of Education, the church is locally significant under Criterion A because of its dual use as a school, Myton Academy. The building, constructed in 1915, was designed with a 13-by-30-foot schoolroom positioned to the rear of the auditorium space within the original chapel building, utilized by Myton Academy. This is noteworthy because Myton Academy provided comprehensive education to nine and ten-year-old students in Myton prior to the complete dissemination of the Utah public school system in the Uintah Basin. Therefore, it is significant in relation to its contribution to the religious and educational aspects of Myton. Moreover, due to three major fires in Myton's history (ca.1915, 1925, 1930) causing loss of most of the original downtown buildings, Myton Presbyterian Church is one of the oldest surviving buildings in Myton and is the oldest church building in Duchesne County. The building is also locally significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture as the best surviving example of the Carpenter Gothic style in Myton. Unlike nineteenth-century Protestant church buildings in Utah, erected as part of the missionary effort among Mormons, twentieth-century churches were constructed with the sole purpose of serving local congregations—Myton Presbyterian Church operated under this role. The building is the only extant example of the style for Presbyterian use in Duchesne County and is one of the few examples of its kind left in the broader Uinta Basin. Within the 1915-1967 period of significance, the building has two distinct construction periods: 1915, when the original wood framed building that housed the auditorium and schoolroom was built and 1967, when the historic mining cottage was moved to the site and the hyphen building was constructed."

**Moon House Complex, San Juan County:**

"The Moon House Complex in San Juan County, Utah, with a construction date beginning c.1240, is significant under criterion A for its association with the Social History of the late Pueblo III period in the Western Mesa Verde area, Northern San Juan Basin region. This canyon site represents the only example of community level integration on Cedar Mesa, a significant event in Northern San Juan Basin prehistory prior to regional depopulation. Pristine architecture provides a well-preserved momentary or synchronic aspect of a small village site at abandonment, a critical period in northern Southwestern prehistory (Kohler et al. 2010). The Moon House Complex is also significant under criterion C in the areas of Architecture and Art for its representation of both Mesa Verde and Kayenta architectural styles, community planning and layout, and rock art. The site provides one of the finest examples of Puebloan architecture in southeastern Utah given its varied methods of construction, workmanship, and degree of preservation. The complex is also significant under criterion C under Art. The mural art depicted at the Moon House has been described as unique (Carr 2008), and represents a significant example of Pueblo III iconography.

The Moon House Complex is significant under criterion D in the research areas of Community

Planning and Development, Architecture, Prehistoric Archaeology, Art, Ethnic Heritage, and Religion. Specifically, the complex has the potential to provide significant additional information for addressing the development of late Pueblo III communities, the social dynamics of aggregation and abandonment, the role of kivas and public architecture, site layout and planning, architectural design and remodeling, agricultural intensification and storage architecture, ceremonial practices or religion, and archaeology. Architectural studies and ceramic analysis may provide significant information on regional relationships between the Western and Central Mesa Verde traditions and between the Mesa Verde and Kayenta Traditions of southwest Colorado and northern Arizona, respectively. Furthermore, the site possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association with an Ancestral Puebloan village site. Location, setting, and feeling are preserved within the Cedar Mesa Special Management Area, a primitive backcountry area set aside for its significant Ancestral Puebloan prehistory. Design, materials, and workmanship of the architecture and mural art remain nearly pristine from its protection within a canyon alcove setting. Unlike the ruins preserved at Mesa Verde National Park and elsewhere, the Moon House has never been subject to reconstruction or invasive preservation measures. Because it is nominated under several eligibility criteria, some of which possess thematic elements that represent prehistoric phenomena affecting a multistate region of the Southwest Culture Area, the Moon House Complex is nominated at the national level of significance, with a period of significance dating from 1240-1270."

#### **US Post Office, Provo, Utah County**

"The U. S. Post Office qualifies for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C at the local level of significance. Its period of significance is its construction date, 1937, onto the date of its addition in 1966. Alterations are evident but kept this building a viable asset and the building has retained its architectural integrity. For these reasons, the building remains integrity under Criterion C as the renovations it has undergone have maintained its distinctive character both on the interior and exterior, and the property continues to possess distinctive characteristics of the period and features prominent art in the conserved mural done under the WPA.

The rear addition to the building is very sympathetic in design, since particular attention was given to the use of materials and design that conform to the original plan and thus it does not make a significant impact. A single score line distinguishes old work from new. Minor decorative changes were only made to the main elevation for purposes of renaming, and in 2015 an accessibility ramp was added to the main elevation in compliance with the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standard (ABAAS).

The building is a Provo landmark, designed by Joseph Nelson, a very distinguished Provo architect, utilizing the Public Works Administration Moderne style favored for public buildings in the 1930s, particularly those built under the aegis of the Supervising Architect's Office, the Treasury Department. The subject building has a Works Progress Administration mural by Utah artist Everett Clark Thorpe that demonstrates the democratic intent of the Roosevelt administration to utilize federal funds to bring work to local artists and builders throughout the Great Depression years."